

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
S. S. REGISTRY
No. D 2558
Date 28/1/1937

January 28, 1937.

3. Morning Translation.

China Times and other local newspapers :-

CITIZENS' FEDERATION DISCUSSES MANY THINGS

The Standing Committee of the Shanghai First Special District Citizens' Federation held a meeting yesterday. Mr. Chang Ih Zung (張一宗) presided. The following resolutions were passed :-

The Discharge of Road Coolies

- 1) That the Association send another letter to the Shanghai Municipal Council asking it not to discharge a large number of road coolies.

The Increase in the Water Rate

- 2) That, in connection with the proposal to increase the water rate,
 - (a) a letter be written to the Shanghai Waterworks Company asking it not to increase the rate.
 - (b) letters be sent to various public bodies asking them to oppose the increase.
 - (c) to hold a meeting of various public bodies at 2 p.m. January 30 to discuss measures.

Throwing of Fire-crackers at Lunar Year

- 3) That the Police authorities be requested to prohibit the throwing or letting-off of crackers during the lunar New Year.

Lectures on Income Tax

- 4) That auditors be engaged to give lectures on the Income Tax; that the Standing Committee members and secretaries of branch federations be notified to attend these lectures.
- 5) That Mr. Yui Yao Jiu (余耀秋) be appointed to attend the meeting convened by the Citizen Training Office to discuss the third term of citizens' military training.
- 6) That the enrollment of citizens requiring training be held between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. January 29.

Shun Pao and other local newspapers :-

MEETING OF S.M.C. ROAD COOLIES

The S.M.C. has decided to discharge 90, of its 1,200 road coolies.

Between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. yesterday, Liu Hoen Jen (劉憲珍), Wong Saung Faung (王雙芳), Wei Boo Ying (魏步瀛) and 97 other representatives of the entire body of road coolies held a meeting (? place not mentioned). Liu Hoen Jen presided.

The following resolutions were discussed and passed :-

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- (1) How to protect ourselves against sudden discharge by the S.M.C.?

Resolved:

- (a) That a "Shanghai International Settlement Road Coolies' Mutual Aid Association" be formed.
(b) That a manifesto be issued.
(c) That appeals for assistance be made to the local Party and government organs and various public bodies.
(d) That a letter be sent to the S.M.C. requesting it to rescind its decision.
(e) That Liu Hoen Wen and 14 others be appointed as members of the Executive Committee.

- (2) Reasons to be submitted to the S.M.C. to show why it should rescind its decision.

Resolved:

That the following seven reasons be submitted:-

- (a) If the Council desires to curtail expenditure by reducing the staff, it should discharge those senior employees who are paid several thousand or several hundred dollars a month.
(b) The tightness in the money market is due to the increase in the number of unemployed.
(c) The extension and widening of roads has been on the increase.
(d) Owing to the damage caused to roads by the heavy traffic, repairs to roads have been more frequent and necessary.
(e) The present road coolies have worked through wind and rain and had risked their lives under showers of bullets during the Sino-Japanese Hostilities in Shanghai in January, 1932; their merit has not been small.
(f) Of late, the wages of various trade workers have been increased, but the road coolies have never asked for an increase.
(g) Many corrupt practices will creep in during the recruiting of coolies in future and it will not be easy to secure men immediately.

- (3) What action is to be taken if dismissal is ordered before a solution of the case is found?

Resolved:

That the entire body of road coolies go on strike should one of their number be dismissed.

Manifesto Issued By Road Coolies

The following is a manifesto issued by the road coolies :-

"Some of the coolies have served the S.M.C. for several tens of years. We work hard day and night on the construction of roads the existence of which contributes to the prosperity of Shanghai. Unexpectedly, the S.M.C. is about to discharge the entire body of coolies. We are thus compelled to form a powerful body and to oppose the unreasonable oppression by the Council.

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"The Council claims that our discharge would effect a saving in expenditure. As a matter of fact, the amount of the wages of 1,000 road coolies is less than the combined salaries of ten senior foreign employees of the Council. If the Council sincerely desires retrenchment, it should reduce the big salaries of its senior foreign employees. The Council has decided to discharge us; this will aggravate the present social crisis. The Council is acting harshly towards the lower class Chinese employees.

"Roads have been extended and widened; moreover, repairs to roads are increasing because of the damage done by heavy traffic. The Council should employ more coolies. Then, why is the Council discharging us?

"Of late, the workers of various trades have demanded an increase of wages, but we, road coolies, have carried on our work as usual. During the Sino-Japanese Hostilities in Shanghai in January, 1932, all the defence works were constructed by us under showers of bullets and many of us were killed or wounded. How can the Council be so hard-hearted? The Council has shown no consideration for our meritorious work.

"The Council is acting unreasonably. Its decision to discharge road coolies shows that it despises the Chinese. We pledge to fight for our case and shall not give up until it has been settled to our satisfaction."

February 26, 1937.

Morning Translation /

Sin Wan Pao publishes the following telegram from Hankow :-

THE MURDER OF GENERAL YANG YUNG TAI

Zung Sih Chao(成璧超), one of the two men accused of the murder of General Yang Yung Tai, former Chairman of the Hupeh Provincial Government, has several aliases. His real name is Tan Wen Sing(譚文信). He is a native of Kweichow Province, not Szechuan.

Hsiao Sheh Shu(蕭其虛) is a member of the staff of the Central Kuomintang Headquarters, but he does not play an important part in this case. Hsiao Sheh Shu and ten other prisoners, among whom are two university professors, have been removed from Shanghai and Nanking to Hankow for imprisonment there. Yang Er Chien(楊爾謙) and his accomplices are still at large. The evidence discovered in Hongkong bears the signature of Mr. Lieu Loo Ying, a member of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang, and shows that it was he who had planned the murder. Mr. Licu Ziu Bang(劉身貞), Chief of the Military Court of the Field Headquarters in Hankow, who is handling the case, proceeded to Nanking the other day to submit a report.

The case was twice tried at Field Headquarters on February 10 and 12, and it was generally believed at the time that Tan Wen Sing and Chun Pah Chow(董柏舟), the actual murderers, would be given capital punishment, while the other prisoners would be referred to the Supreme Court at Nanking to be dealt with. Subsequently, telegraphic instructions were received from Nanking ordering the Field Headquarters to postpone the passing of sentence on the prisoners, because of the discovery at Hongkong of new evidence relating to Mr. Lieu Loo Ying's intrigues. The new evidence was taken by Mr. Yu Tseh(余錫), a Departmental Chief of the Police Bureau of Nanking, to Hankow where, after phototastic spies had been made, it was again brought back to Nanking.

After murdering General Yang Yung Tai, Chun Pah Chow fled to Shanghai. Enquiries showed that he was on intimate terms with a prostitute named Lau San(老三) in Hankow. The girl was persuaded to come to Shanghai by air, but Chun Pah Chow had gone to Nanking and subsequently to Wuhu where he was finally apprehended and escorted back to Hankow.

Mr. Lieu Loo Ying had organized two reactionary bodies known as the "Revolutionary Army Group" and the "Chinese Youth Special Affairs Corps" whose agents are scattered throughout the country for the purpose of murdering important officials of the Party and government. Generals Chang Chun, Yang Yung Tai, Huang Fu and others were marked for assassination. It is learned that members of the "Revolutionary Army Group" are required to take an oath when joining; the oath contains this injunction: "Obey the directions of Mr. Lieu Loo Ying."

The following persons have been arrested and detained at the Military Gaol at Hankow for their part in the murder of General Yang Yung Tai:- chief culprits: Zung Sih Chao (alias Tan Wen Sing) and Chun Pah Chow; suspects: Lo Zing Ning(羅靜寧), Wen Mou Kung(文茂宮), Koo Ih Van(顧一凡), Yang Gee Sing(楊基昇), Hsiao Sheh Shim(蕭其虛), Zao Ping Yoong(曹炳榮), Wong Kwang Tsong(王光宗), Huang Ching Ling(黃正齡), Yoeh Chien Chung(柳連中), Ling Yoong Chung(林用中), Yang Siang Van(楊尚善), Ho Yuin Ching(何雲卿), Chiang Teh Zeng(蔣德成), Li Chun Chien(李群堅) and one female.